From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Sep 19 00:20:24 1994
Message-Id: <9409181932.A3248Kb@wa8tzg.mi.org>
Date: Sun, 18 Sep 1994 19:32:14 EDT
From: wwm@wa8tzg.mi.org (Bill Meahan)
Subject: Re: HW-8

>From: mcnnet!math.hawaii.edu!jeffrey
>Received: from cruncher.math.hawaii.edu by kahuna.math.hawaii.edu (4.1/kahuna-MX-1.4b)
> id AA05651; Sat, 17 Sep 94 15:28:49 HST
>Received: by cruncher.math.hawaii.edu (4.1/cruncher-CLIENT-1.3)
> id AA03128; Sat, 17 Sep 94 15:28:39 HST
>Date: Sat, 17 Sep 94 15:28:39 HST
>Message-Id: <9409180128.AA03128@cruncher.math.hawaii.edu>
>To: qrp-l@netcom.com
>Subject: HW-8
>Sender: mcnnet!netcom.com!owner-qrp-l
>Precedence: list
>
>
>Bill WA8TZG wrote:
>
>That being said, the HW-8 was not the be-all-end-all of RF
>communication. It was plagued by all the problems inherent to DC rigs,
>...
> cat: a purr bearing mammal
>**
>
>Wasn't the HW-7 the one with the DC receiver, and the HW-8 had
>a superhet?
>

Both were DC receivers. I built the HW-8 and I really remember worrying
about whether a DC receiver was worthwhile.

>My cat used to love to sleep on my DX-60 xmtr while it was running;
>I guess she was recycling the heat given off by the tubes.
>
>Jeff NH6IL

Velcro, that's our cat, particularly likes it when we sit at the
computer - she likes to sit on the worktable next to the monitor and get
her back stroked. She also is fascinated by the head motion of our
DeskJet printer and will sit on top of the printer and try and bat the
print head with her paw.

--
Bill Meahan WA8TZG wmeahan@wa8tzg.mi.org

Member of: ARRL, IMRA, NorCal QRP, G-QRP, IEEE Computer Society
Hey, this is my OWN computer! I can say what I want!
 cat: a purr bearing mammal

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Sep 18 11:51:04 1994
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: Re HW7/8
Date: Sun, 18 Sep 94 09:13:04 EST5EDT
Message-Id: <1994Sep18.091304.12074@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

Regarding the recent question: The HW-7 had a direct conversion
receiver, and lots of problems with it. The HW-8 went to a heterodyne
frequency control scheme--one single VFO range (unlike the HW-7),
mixing it with the output of a crystal oscillator to get the final
frequency. It was still a DC receiver, but got rid of many of the
receiver problems that the HW-7 had. (There was some incorrect
information on these two units in a paragraph somewhere in a recent
QST, about the bands covered; the HW-7 covers 3 bands, the HW-8 covers
4, and the HW-9 covers something like 4 or 5 unless you had the WARC
accessory pack, in which case it covered everything 80 thru 10,
including WARC; and I believe the stock '9, without WARC pack, also did
not cover 10M.) The HW-9, of course, went to a superhet design. (And
as for the lousy HW-7 receiver, I've still got a rewrite of the KN1H
improvement in the works.) 73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ
--
Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Sep 18 22:53:50 1994
Date: Sun, 18 Sep 94 16:57:30 -0500
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9409182157.AA12669@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: k5fo/5

Gang,

The question was asked and I answered where was I.

We worked, most notably, W8LCZ, AA7QU, N6KR (worth the
whole contest), K6FE, K6RPN, KI6SN, WB4ZKA, AA4XX, and
KR4NR (the loudest on the 20M band).

Where were you? I didn't hear a single W1, W2, or W5.
The only 3 was WA3BHM in PA and he was QRO.

later,
SIG
Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60
adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Sep 18 14:19:01 1994
Message-Id: <9409181529.AA08867@ig1.att.att.com>
From: mvjf@mvubr.att.com (James M Fitton +1 508 960 2577)
Date: 18 Sep 94 15:27:00 GMT
Subject: QRP AFD NE

Terrific contest.

W1FMR/1 and N1CUU/1 handed out 48 QSOs and stations were
worked in Puerto Rico (KP4DDB/QRP), Texas, Washington St.,
Ore., and Canada.

Where was K5FO, N6KR, KI6DS ?

W1FMR/1 contacted N1CUU/1 on 40m although he was more than
50 ft. away, sharing the same antenna support, and running
2 watts also.
Does this qualify us for the coveted 1000 watts/mile award ?

In addition, W1FMR/1 made 27 contacts with 17 multipliers.

QRP-NE Recommendation :

When there is more than 1 operator available, set up at least
2 stations and each operator can use his own call.
Not only would there be more stations on the air, but when
things get dry you can contact each other.

Thanks to Chet Bowles, AA1EX for running this contest !
Also thanks to K5FO for donating the high score trophy.

And thanks to all the clubs that supported this event.
It was much greater than any expectation of QRP-NE.
This seems to be what you folks want......

Be sure to forward your logs to Chet, along with your
comments, photos, and tall tales. What did you like
about the event ?

72 Jim, W1FMR

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Sep 18 08:04:56 1994
Date: Sun, 18 Sep 94 04:29:56 -0500
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9409180929.AA12198@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: QRP Afield de K5FO/5

Gang,

Thanks to Doug, KI6DS, for his report. The following is
mine.

First Annual QRP AFIELD
Report for K5FO/5 by Chuck Adams

Saturday morning, I arise at 6am to begin preparation for the
big event of the fall - the much awaited first annual QRP
Afield sponsored by the NE QRP Club. You didn't think that
I would start early for this thing did you? :-)

First thing to do was cut a dipole for 20M, since the plan
was to operate a single band. So out with the trusty ARRL
handbook to see the formula for the length, I cut 33' and
some left over, so stretch out the wire in the driveway
(the sun is about to come up about this time) and cutaway.
Get the RG-58U, random length about 40' or so, and two ceramic
egg insulators for the ends and another for the middle of the
dipole. Solder coax to center wires and add Radio Shack solderless
PL-259 to the transmitter end of the antenna - but I do solder the
center wire. I just don't trust loose wires in a connector. Get
the trusty multimeter to check to make sure that I haven't made me
a shorted piece of coax going nowhere in the RF world. Checks OK.
I know that it will do me no good whatsoever to check where this
thing is resonant until I get it into position at the fieldday site.

Go back into the house to eat French Toast for breakfast. While
waiting for the sun I had made up a list of equipment and tools to
take. So go into the shack and round up the stuff and put it in the
floor and double check. Get a canvas flight bag that AA had given away
to VIPs at the World Cup opening here in Dallas and put all but the xcvr
in it. Put the stuff in the pickup and tell the SO that I'm outta here

and off to home depot and then to the field. She provided the card table and chairs for this event.

I get to home depot about 9am and get the four poles and two hose clamps needed as supports for the antenna. More on this latter. Back into the truck and off to the northern wilds of Dallas to the field. I get there about 10:15CST, the same time as Wayne, W5WO, gets there. We survey the site and decide upon a location where we get some shade from a 15' small silver leaf maple tree. It's perfect. We have some other small trees spaced out about 60' or so to attach support poles to.

The site we picked was Breckenridge Park in north dallas in the burbs known as Plano TX. It's a large park with soccer fields, large roller blade and walking paths, and rolling hills and large golf course (all these for if conditions really are bad). We set up with card table and three folding chairs that I had brought. Setup Ten-Tec Argosy with MFJ Deluxe Elect. Keyer and MFJ Chrome Iambic paddle. I removed the battery from the truck, thus disabling it and later preventing me from running off to get something to eat (nice diet program), and attached it to the rig.

We then proceeded to set up the dipole and for this I think that I came up with a relatively neat and inexpensive way to do this. I bought four 3/4 inch conduit 10' sections at Home Depot for the paltry sum of $1.95 each and the two coupling sections for about $0.79, which have two set screws to lock the two sections together. I joined the conduit to make two 20' poles and used the two hose clamps (1") for another $1.50 or so to attach two wire loops at the top of the poles for running rope through to raise and lower dipole and adjust tension. This same loop also was used for guy rope (400 pound test nylon stuff). We tied the poles to two trees with a foot of wire, thus making up the temporary antenna and not damaging trees in any manner. We now had our antenna up. This took about 20 minutes or so and here we are at the start of the test and we aren't going to make it on time, but hey, this is a "chilled out - let's have fun and don't get ourselves into a tissy" kind of event. Dipole is setup in what we think is a NE direction. This is a NE sponsored contest!!

Out with the battery powered MFJ SWR Analyzer and I check the SWR without having to power up the rig. Oooops!! Resonant at 13.750MHz. I don't think we want to work down there. SWR above 3:1 at 14.060, so quickly lower the antenna and I guess at about 6" on each end and we put it back up. Lucky guess as now SWR at 1.2 or less for ENTIRE 20M band!!!!!! This is it.

Power output set at 0.95W out with OHR WM-1 wattmeter into dummy load.

By this time it's 25 minutes late into the contest, but hey no pressure here. We fire up the rig and wow, there are signals on the band. So out with the pen and paper (no real logs here), but Wayne brings out a ruler and makes lines for me to write on (reminded me of the Big Chief tablets) and we're off.

First contact was ND at 1627Z. Wow, this setup is really working. It's now 30 minutes into the test. With K5FO at the helm and W5WO at the helm later we rack up 20 QSOs with 10 states for a total of 1,600 points in less than 3 hours of operating. We kept working 6's in CA and "rotated" dipole a little more to the north to see if we could get anyone in the east, but still CA was major source of signals. Wayne worked N6KR with N6ULU at the helm about an hour and a half into the contest. WB4ZKA, Mike, in Mesa AZ called me by name, as did several others during the test. Fastest qso was with AA4XX, who was running 900mW. Band was up and down, but not too bad.

Larry Jone, N5OSG, showed up about an hour into the test, due to other commitments, and gave us support as we hunkered down in the sweltering Texas sun. It was truely a miracle that it was a clear day without a single cloud in the sky. A cold front had moved through during the night and the temp was in the upper 70s with a nice 20MPH breeze for the whole time. A perfect day and a welcome relief from the hot summer we had been having a could still be having here in Texas and the rain that was predicted several days before.

Three hours into operating, with time to rotate dipole, we decided to call it a day. We kept hearing the same stations. The digital stations kept moving down to 7.055MHz and I did work one mobile station on the County Hunters Net (CHN) on 14.0555MHz. Hey, if you can't fight 'em, join 'em. :-)

I did manage to get a slight UV dose, but nothing serious.

I was surprised that we did not hear a single station NE of PA, and the PA was the last contact we made. We worked ND, FL, WI, CA, MI, OR, UT, AZ, NC, es PA for states. I was also interested in the fact that we seemed to work some stations off of what seemed to be the ends of the dipole, but the exact heading was unknown due to orientation of nearby landmarks. Next year I'll bring a compass. Solar direction didn't help that much.

Summary: 20 QSOs x 8pts/QSO x 10 states = 1,600 points
 Average QSO rate 9 minutes per.
Ops: K5FO es W5WO es N5OSG (about 2.6 hrs time)
QTH: Breckenridge Park, Plano TX
Stuff: TT Argosy 0.95W out, 20M dipole, Keyer(K5FO) es
 Vibroplex Bug(W5WO)

My award for the year is to the NE QRP club for sponsoring
the event. It's a perfect time (at least this year it was) for
FD. No Texas heat and no crowded bands with 100W rigs
pounding away at the rcvr front end every 200 Hz. If
necessary, I will sponsor the trophy each year, but will
let others take the honors to further the continuance of
this test.

To the management and staff and sponsors at the QRP Club
of New England - thanks a million gang.

>From the Plains of Texas - respectively submitted for
you enjoyment and blanket permission given to reproduce
in any and all media without modification and with due
credit.
SIG
Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60
adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Sep 18 17:16:55 1994
Date: 18 Sep 94 13:17:35 EDT
From: Craig LaBarge <74740.3166@compuserve.com>
Subject: QRP Afield Woes
Message-Id: <940918171735_74740.3166_EHB121-1@CompuServe.COM>

One of the things I enjoy the most about ham radio is operating QRP-portable.
So, needless to say, I was pumped for this event. However, after weeks of
planning and anticipation, my XYL took sick and we took a trip to the doctor
instead.

So, I spent QRP Afield at the home QTH trying to contact all the stations I
could hear and give out some points to those lucky folks who made it into the
field. Those I worked include:

VE2DRB KR4DR AA1EX NG1G KX1E AA4XX WK8S
N1CUU WA8LCZ KA9HAO W1FD WA2BQI N4ELM

My congratulations to you all. Everyone sounded great here in Pennsylvania,
especially VE2DRB and KR4DR who were coming in loud and clear all afternoon.

Hopefully, with a little luck, I'll be able to join you out there next year.
This is absolutely the neatest QRP operating event of the year!

73, Craig WB3GCK
74740.3166@compuserve.com
Just say NO to QRO!

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Sep 18 11:43:09 1994
Date: Sun, 18 Sep 1994 07:16:58 -0600
Message-Id: <199409181316.HAA01682@Freenet.HSC.Colorado.EDU>
From: an966@Freenet.HSC.Colorado.EDU (Gene McGahey)
Subject: QRP Mt. Expedition '94

1994 ROCKY MOUNTAIN EXPEDITION
September 31, October 1 & 2, 1994

Location: Georgia Pass - COLORADO
(near 10,000 ft. snow permitting)

Primary Bands of Operation: 40, 30, & 20 Meters
(late night 80 Mtrs possible)

Primary Operating Freqs: 7.040. 7.110, 10.116, 14.060 (+/-)
(3.560, 3.710 possible)

Antennas: Inverted Vees for 40 & 30 Meters; Random Wire with
Counter Poise; Carolina Windom 80-10 Meters

Rigs Available:
1. Ten Tec Argosy (80-10 Mtrs + WARC 30)
2. MFJ-9040 (40 Mtrs)
3. MFJ-9030 (30 Mtrs)
4. MFJ-9420 (20 Mtrs SSB/CW)
5. Spider (80, 40 & 30 Mtrs)
6. HW-8 (20 Mtrs)

Power Source: 1. 12 VDC, 85 ah Marine Deep Cycle

2. (2) 12 VDC, 18 ah Gel Cell

3. 12 VDC, 103 ah Marine Deep Cycle

4. 12 VDC, 1.5 ah Gel Cell

5. 12 VDC, 4.8 ah Gel Cells

Participants: AA0AO, AA0QB, AL7GQ, N6UA, NF0Z

09/18/94 - AL7GQ

AL7GQ P.O.BOX 33910 NORTHGLENN, COLORADO 80233-0910

###

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Sep 18 14:40:50 1994
From: Jeff Jones <jeffj@crl.com>
Message-Id: <199409181553.AA19917@crl5.crl.com>
Subject: QRP QSO
Date: Sun, 18 Sep 1994 08:53:36 -0700 (PDT)

Yesterday on Saturday 9/17/94 my son had a teammate over after their soccer game and I was showing them the wonders of Amateur Radio. They had fun talking to a ham in Canada and so I said let's see who we can dig up on CW. So I went down to around 7.040 and called CQ, where upon they promptly ran out of the room to play Nitendo. The nerve of them! 8-) Any way I was running around 50 watts (sorry) calling CQ and a station came back to me and he was LOUD!. He said he was KD5OB, so I gave him a 599 report, name and QTH and turned it over to him. He gave a me a 599 also (what a surprise) and said he was at 11,000 feet in the John Muir Wilderness! I asked him what kind of rig and antenna did he have. He said that he had a HW-8, 40 meter dipole and was using a gel cell with a solar panel to charge it. I said that was really interesting as I belonged to the NorCal QRP club. He said he also belonged to the NorCal club too. I sent great and asked him if he had a email address. He sent back that he did and that he was on crl.com. I replied that I was also on that system and asked him if he subscribed to this mailing list. He sent that he did and that it sure was a small world! We chatted some more and he sent he was tired and that the key was winning. So we sent 73's and 72's and signed. I have always wanted to do something like that and

hopefully after I finally build my mystery QRP rig that I have been planning for a long time I will. That sure did inspire me! Probably the highest station that I have ever worked!

Jeff
AB6MB
jeffj@crl.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Sep 18 05:02:30 1994
Message-Id: <9409180300.AA12503@ig1.att.att.com>
From: mvjf@mvubr.att.com (James M Fitton +1 508 960 2577)
Date: 18 Sep 94 02:58:00 GMT
Subject: QRP-AFIELD W1FMR

Log of W1FMR/1: 27 QSOs 15/40m 12/20m

QRP-AFIELD #1 Sept 17, 1994

QTH - Salisbury, MA
XMT PWR - 2W,
RIG NC-40, HW-9, ARGO-509
ANT - LW, VERT.
POWER - 12V BATTERY
~3.5 hours.

Jim, W1FMR/1 and Carl, N1CUU/1 went to the Atlantic ocean shore to operate QRP-AFIELD #1.

We set up 2 QRP stations and picked the site just moments before the contest. The original chosen site in N.H. was controlled by some bi-ch who wanted to charge us to park, and tell us where to park when there were only 3 cars in the whole da-n parking lot! Can you tell I was mad ? There must be much more inbreeding going on in that town than is generally realized. Of course having a nearby nuclear reactor may alter any remaining good genes.
It was once rumored that Al Capp used to get inspiration for his "Little Abner" cartoon strip, from that town.
I am not kidding.

 The alternate QRP-AFIELD site chosen was much prettier anyway, except for the fact it is in Taxachusettes, but we finished before they could home in on our signals and tax our QRP operation. The site is located in Salisbury Mass., on a pretty rock jetty, over the mouth of a tidal

river outlet to the Atlantic ocean. The antenna support was a large wooden conical shaped marine channel marker and radar reflector. The top about 40 ft. above the low tide water mark, and there was not a tree or bush to use within a half mile of the site.

The temperature was a freaky warm day for New England. A strong wind was blowing from the north and it was overcast and very warm, about 85 F. It is hard to hear stations on the NC-40 when the wind blows that hard and I keep meaning to do something about that.

The 40m station was an NC-40 and HW-9 located on a folding table and lawn chair on the beach. Carl took charge of that luxurious set-up and I had trouble prying him out of it. The river view was outstanding. The last time I visited that location, an attractive woman was swimming with a dog (animal). When she got out of the water she was clad only in shorts and and a t-shirt. I nearly inhaled a mouthful of sand. Of course, that story had nothing to do with choosing that site though. At least, that is what Carl says. We ran a long wire to the top and down one side of the channel marker and it worked extremely well for 40m. Stations, esp. W3TS/QRP, (how does he do it ?) were booming in continuously.

The 20m station was an ARGO-509 located directly under the channel marker, and the antenna was a poor, intermittant, specimen of a butternut vertical lashed to the outside of the marker. I forgot to bring a coaxial barrel connector and the cable to the vertical was so short, that I had to climb inside the cone shaped channel marker to reach the rig. I didnt notice that it was warm, soft tar that I was sittin in. I watched the boats fishing in the river and listened to the wind blow. It was beautiful, but when I tried to get up, I was stuck to the tar. Nearby big boats did cause ignition noise, and the 40m station provided ample QRM and key clicks.

About 4 hours into the contest, a thunder and lightening storm came up and drenched us completely. Because we were having so much fun, we dismantled the station too late, and got thoroughly drenched. Please, next time make a contest that is less exciting.

72 Jim, W1FMR

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Sep 18 14:40:58 1994

Message-Id: <9409181708.AA15046@mesa5.Mesa.Colorado.EDU>
Subject: Spider QRP Transceiver
Date: Sun, 18 Sep 1994 11:08:56 +0000 (MDT)
From: "jim rybak" <jrybak@mesa5.mesa.colorado.edu>

I have a Spider QRP transceiver for 40 meters. I use 8 ohm headphones and the audio output seems quite low. I have rigged up an outboard audio amplifier and that solves the problem but I was wondering if the basic problem is my use of 8 ohm headphones or is there a more fundamental problem with the Spider.

73,

Jim Rybak W0KSD

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon Sep 19 01:35:46 1994
Date: Sun, 18 Sep 94 16:26:48 HST
From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu (Jeffrey Herman)
Message-Id: <9409190226.AA08252@kahuna.math.hawaii.edu>
Subject: Stupid things I've done

Here's today's Tidbit:

Last night I fired up the 1W homebrewed 30M xmtr only to find its xmt frequency fluctuating wildly (it's xtal controlled - it's not supposed to do that). Thoughts of having to rewind the oscillator's tank coil crossed my mind, or maybe the xtal went bad (does that happen?) When it's late and I'm sleepy I know better than on work on a rig so I shut everything down.
Well, today I find that I had the power supply's polarity reversed - no wonder the xmtr was misbehaving! Amazingly, the three 2N2222 xsistors didn't seem to mind the excitement at all.
So my Tidbit donation today is Always Check The Polarity.

With this, let's start a new thread: Stupid Things I've Done.

.73,
Jeff NH6IL (soon to be WA6QIJ again for $70)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sun Sep 18 23:17:06 1994
Date: Sun, 18 Sep 1994 20:26:08 -0400 (EDT)
From: prvalko <prvalko@vela.acs.oakland.edu>
Subject: Weeknd Swap Activities
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9409182042.B14150-0100000@vela.acs.oakland.edu>

Thanks to all the QRP Afield folk for posting results. Great Reading!

Our local club had the annual swap-n-shop today so the weekend was busy with that.

I worked the "club" table selling items for the other members who were out giving exams or talk0in or cooking etc. One of the local OMs went silent key recently and the table was jammed with old and new gear/parts that we were selling for his XYL.

This was quite sad (to me). Perhaps I'm too sentimental, but I scowered the bags and boxes to find a memorial that I could buld to honor this departed brother ham. He was a real OT, had boxes of OLD caps, wire, coil forms... all the good stuff this generation of appliance ops rarely see or need. (I'm quite the appliance op myself, this is no flame) I secured a steel BUD box and a nice Miller coil that would make a fine QRP tuner.

On the lighter side: There was a pristine TenTec Corsair I in his estate with the matching P.S. that a gent took for $575, all the filters and boxes included. I thought he got a pretty good bargain. For the QRO ops, he also owned and Ameritron L-80 amp that he had never even installed the tube in! It was marked $975 and still on the table as I left.

Out in the trunk sales I found a couple more TenTecs, a decent C-21 and a fairly beat up Triton II w/PS and mic. The C-21 was sold for $130 and the T-II was still available at $240.

M-QRP club was present (besides myself) with K8DD, N8CQA (Buck replaced my busted M-QRP lapel pin for free and had the new and sexy M-QRP coffee cups for sale), WA8LZV (Byron pulled himself away from QRP-Afield for a swing through the swap!) One wag had a complete HW-9 station available priced at $500 ;-)

Also got to "show off" my completed NN1G kit :-) After all the compliments the swap committee called the fire department and they used the "jaws of life" to widen the school entrance door so my head could fit through so I could go home :-)

Happy Hunting! es 73

=paul= wb8zjl